

CARLTON COUNTY

RESOURCE AND RECYCLING NEWSLETTER

Volume 13, Issue 1

Holiday 2018

Is Wrapping Paper Recyclable???

The short answer is no. The shiny, laminated paper is not recyclable in most circumstances. Wrapping paper is not accepted with mixed paper for recycling at the Carlton County Recycling Centers. If your recyclables are collected curbside, contact your garbage hauler to see if they accept it. But when in doubt, leave it out of your recycling bin. To reduce holiday waste from wrapping paper, try an alternative!

- **Use kraft paper:**

Kraft paper is often made from recycled material and can be recycled after use. You can use and re-use kraft bags for gift giving.

- **Use reusable fabric for wrapping:** This has become a popular alternative to one-time use wrapping paper. There are products available pre-made that you can purchase. If you have some sewing skills, you can easily make your own. An internet search with the key words *fabric gift bags* or *fabric gift wrap* will provide you with many options. Try [Etsy.com](https://www.etsy.com)

- **If you must have your wrapping paper:**

Purchase paper that is made from recycled paper. Check the label! This way there is a sustainability bonus in the production of the product.

- **Reuse Holiday gift bags, boxes, and bows:**

Let your family and friends know that you will gladly take back your gift packaging if they don't want to keep it themselves.

- **Don't wrap gifts:** Give the recipient clues or a map to find them.
- **Use other materials:** Try newspaper, comics, maps, magazines, or book pages instead of store-bought wrapping paper.

- **Visit our *Holiday Hacks for a Low-Waste* board on Pinterest for more ideas!**

[pinterest.com/carltonco](https://www.pinterest.com/carltonco)





Courtesy of Ohio EPA

Holiday Waste (and how to make it less so)

- **Keep it simple:** One thoughtful gift is better than six wrapped packages of unwanted gifts.
- **Reduce paper waste:** Send electronic holiday cards. Reuse packaging, cartons, and shipping materials before recycling.
- **Children can give coupons for their time:** Suggestions include extra chores, cooking dinners, watching younger siblings, and giving plenty of hugs and kisses.
- **Give an experience or an event to remember:** Some ideas are tickets to a concert or sports event, gift certificates to dinner, a massage, a day at the spa, a membership to a museum or zoo, or sports and music lessons.
- **Plan your meals well to reduce food waste:** Check out savethefood.com for excellent information about planning meals and using up leftovers.
- **Choose a charity:** Donate in the recipient's name.
- **Share your time and talents:** Consider a gift certificate that offers babysitting, a home-cooked meal, or a monthly lunch date with a relative or friend, for example.
- **Give fair trade items:** Common fair trade items include tea, coffee, or chocolate. These items are consumable and their purchase benefits the communities they were produced in.



Photo courtesy of Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Holiday lights recycling

Holiday lights can be recycled for FREE at the Carlton County Transfer Station.

Please place only the string lights in the marked collection bin.

REMOVE lights from:

- Plastic bags
- Plastic spools
- Garland or other decorations.

Electric cords are also accepted.

Current hours for the Transfer Station located at 1950 Hwy 210, Carlton are Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Carlton County Recycling Center Hours

STAFFED Recycling Centers

*Barnum, Carlton, Esko,
Moose Lake, Perch Lake*

Hours, year-round

Wednesdays

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Fridays

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Saturdays

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Accepted Materials at Staffed Centers:

Glass jars and bottles, plastic bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs, tin cans, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, boxboard, cardboard, and office paper

UNSTAFFED Recycling Centers

*Blackhoof, Cromwell,
Holyoke, Kettle River,
Mahtowa, Wright*

Open 24/7, year-round

Accepted Materials at Unstaffed Centers:

Glass jars and bottles, plastic bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs, tin cans, aluminum cans, and newspapers

Transfer Station 1950 Hwy 210, Carlton

Hours Nov. 1 - March 31

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturdays

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Accepted Materials at Transfer Station:

Glass jars and bottles, plastic bottles, jars, jugs, and tubs, tin cans, aluminum cans, newspapers, magazines, office paper, boxboard, cardboard, car batteries, medical sharps, used motor oil and filters, antifreeze, and food waste

All recyclables **MUST** be clean, removed from bags, and sorted into the proper bin.

Thank you!

Hosting a large feast?

Consider setting up a container to collect food waste, lined with a compostable bag, and bring the material to the Carlton County food waste drop site at the Transfer Station. You can even get free compostable bags from the cashier. Food waste collected from a public event can be brought to the food waste drop site with prior approval. Email recycling@co.carlton.mn.us for more information.



Visit our website

Go to co.carlton.mn.us/254/Recycling

to find the Transfer Station price guide, an interactive map of the recycling centers

in the county, infor-

mation on Green Schools

Project, and other useful resources.

Have a specific question?

recycling@co.carlton.mn.us

218-384-9178

